
DHS UNVEILS NEW ONLINE DIRECTORY



Last week the Office of Systems and Technology published its new online DHS employee directory. Positive reviews are already streaming in about the department's latest tool. The department chose to go online for both cost and convenience. "One of the reasons DHS switched to an electronic directory is because a printed directory can be costly," said Julie Munsell DHS Communications Director. "Since employees are so mobile within the agency, the moment you publish a printed version, it becomes obsolete."

While it's far ahead of its predecessors, the system does contain a few information glitches the department is trying to resolve. "Each evening the directory downloads information from AASIS and the DHS Network Directory, so we have the most current information according to our personnel records," said Dick Wyatt, DHS Chief Information Officer. "Some cost center and personnel codes in AASIS may show employees in a different location than the one in which they are housed." The Office of Systems and technology is working with the AASIS Payroll Division to update personnel location codes to correct these problems. The directory page also provides a link to "other directory information" which provides listings for Executive Staff, DHS Services at a Glance, DHS-Operated Institutions, and a County Office spreadsheet.

Although information comes in directly from AASIS, employees *can* change some fields themselves by simply entering their name and clicking on the "change information" function. In order to change information, employees must submit their personnel number and the last four digits of their social security number.

To access the online service directory click on:

http://dhsiisp1/wa_eod/Directory.aspx

Changes/Transitions....

Gwen Lovelace (DCO) is the new Sebastian County Administrator. Gwen is a 20-year DHS employee with 15 years of DCO Supervisory experience. Dr. Grover Evans is the new DDS Client Advocate. Dr. Evans has been working as a Special Consultant for Systems Design for DHS and Arkansas Rehabilitation Services since June of 2002. Congratulations to them both!

Did You Know?....

Rachel Jones, daughter of Ray Jones (DCC/ECE) and Lisa Jones (DMS) is a National Achievement Merit Semi-Finalist? Rachel is a senior at Little Rock Central High School. In addition to her academic achievements, Rachel has signed a Letter of Intent to play basketball with the Lady Broncs of the University of Texas-Pan-Am next fall. Rachel has been awarded all-state and all-conference honors during the past two seasons playing basketball with the Lady Tigers. Congratulations, Rachel and keep up the good work!

DHS AROUND THE STATE

*More news from the **Healthy**
Arkansas file.....*



In keeping with Governor Huckabee's Healthy Arkansas Initiative, the Arkansas Gymnastics Training Center of Little Rock is offering DHS employees a discount on gymnastics programs for Kids. Parents can receive a 50% discount on the annual registration fee as well as additional discounts on monthly fees. Parents can also enroll their child in one free class by calling 501-225-6441. Parents must call ahead to schedule the trial class. For more information about the center go to ***www.argtc.com***.



The Employee Relations Committee (ERC) at the **Southeast Arkansas Human Development Center** held its annual award ceremony. Two individuals were selected as 2003 Employee of the Year: **Yvette Belin and Larry Hayes**. Yvette is an Instructor with the Programming Section, and Larry is Laundry room Supervisor. These two employees were selected during the 25th anniversary year. The 2004 Direct Care Employee of the Year is LST Supervisor **Antonio Davis**. The 2004 Non-Direct Care Employee of the Year is Teacher Assistant **Angela Jones**.

The winner of the ERC Era Jean Owens Award was ERC member **Debra Banks**. The Owens Award was named to honor Ms. Owens' commitment to promoting the morale-boosting activities of ERC. Their primary duties of the Employee Relations Committee are to promote activities that will increase staff morale. Activities include awards, Secret Pal Days, bake sales, silent auctions, birthdays and other acknowledgements and end of the year gifts for all staff. ERC Chairperson Superintendent Gwen Bullard wishes to congratulate the award recipients.

Corrections from newsletter dated 12-30-04...

John Kennedy was selected as the ASHEA Employee of the year.



New Art Displays – New Donaghey Plaza South Building

2nd floor Balcony – The “Vanishing Delta” exhibit features Alexander Kent’s perspective through his photography taken in Greenville and Rosedale, Mississippi.

2nd Floor Receptionist Area – Photography by Ann West, former OCC Attorney, sharing her photography from a trip to Canada. Her collection of Canadian scenes was recently on display at St. Louis University.

2nd Floor (Donaghey Plaza West) – Computer-generated commercial art by students at Parkview Arts/Science Magnet High School; reflections of Little Rock architecture.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 21st - George Washington's Birthday/Daisy Bates Gaston Day

A Special Thank you...Catastrophic Leave Donations

The following note is from Paula Dieckoff, Area 5 Medicaid Assistant, Marion County: "I would like to send a thank you out to the workers of the state of Arkansas. I was diagnosed with lung cancer back in September and went through three months of treatment and time off from work. Thanks to the wonderful people that work for the state who contributed their leave time to the catastrophic leave bank. I was able to be off work and not miss any paychecks. You can imagine how important that was because of the expenses we incurred during my illness. Thanks for the cards I received every week, the food, phone calls, and visits. This really kept my spirits up and I just can't thank you enough for all your support. I am back at work now and feel very blessed to work for the state and work in Marion County with these wonderful employees."



Do you have something you'd like to share in the newsletter?
Send e-mail to Julie.Munsell@arkansas.gov or
Ingrid.Green@arkansas.gov. Send a fax to (501) 682-6836 or
call (501) 682-8650.